



Langley Research Center

Safety Alert

SA-05-94

Date: April 7, 1994

TO: All Facility Safety Heads
All Facility Coordinators

FROM: 429/Safety Manager, Chief Office of Safety and Facility
Assurance, SEMA

SUBJECT: Safety Release: Proper Maintenance of Facility Accessways,
and Personnel Lifting Standard

There have been two areas of concern voiced to me over the past few weeks and I wanted to present them to you for your evaluation and action as appropriate. The first deals with access to and egress from our facilities and the second is the physical lifting standard at LaRC. It was noted that the primary means of access and egress for many of our facilities are through double doors both of which are to be operable. It is our responsibility to open and close a facility each day ensuring these doors are appropriately configured. A number of accidents occur each year across the country by people running hands and arms through glass doors due to this unsafe condition. In an emergency situation, a more serious injury might occur if free access is not maintained within our facilities. Let's each of us make an attempt to unlock and secure our facilities properly each day.

A number of years ago, to support a more safe work environment, the Center established a physical lifting requirement. Since this policy was established several years ago, it was requested that these lifting limits as documented in LHB 1740.2, "Facility Safety Requirements," be summarized for your review. The physical lifting standard at LaRC is established to range from 15-50 lbs. This standard was derived from weights for moderate lifting provided by the Department of Labor and Office of Personnel Management of 20 to 50 lbs. and 15 to 44 lbs., respectively. Personal physical requirements may lower this standard as an individual should never lift more than their own capability. When

SA-05-94

2

lifting loads greater than 50 lbs. additional personnel or mechanical advantage shall be utilized whenever possible, so that no individual lifts more than 50 lbs.

You are encouraged to keep these two safety program elements in mind as we continue to work to keep our Center safe. Thank you for you continued excellent support of our safety program.

for V.W. Wessel

V. William Wessel

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